

FACULTY RECITAL

SERGIU LUCA, violin

BRIAN CONNELLY, piano

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

8:00 p.m.

Lillian H. Duncan Recital Hall

RICE UNIVERSITY

the
Shepherd
School
of Music

PROGRAM

Sonata No. 2 in D Minor, Op. 121

Robert Schumann

(1810-1856)

Ziemlich langsam, Lebhaft

Sehr lebhaft

Leise, Einfach

Bewegt

INTERMISSION

Fantasie in C Major for Violin and Piano, Op. Posth. 159, D. 934

Franz Schubert

(1797-1828)

Andante molto -

Allegretto -

Andantino (Theme and Variations) -

Tempo I -

Allegro vivace

(played without pause)

The reverberative acoustics of Duncan Recital Hall magnify the slightest sound made by the audience. Your care and courtesy will be appreciated. The taking of photographs and use of recording equipment are prohibited.

BIOGRAPHIES

SERGIU LUCA, described in the Washington Post as "a fiddler's fiddler," is a concert personality who has enjoyed a worldwide career. He combines an unparalleled diversity of repertoire with inspired virtuosity as a soloist with orchestras as well as in recitals annually at major music centers around the world.

A native of Rumania, Mr. Luca made his debut with Israel's Haifa Symphony at the age of nine. Following his studies in England and Switzerland, he came to the United States to study with the legendary pedagogue Ivan Galamian at the Curtis Institute.

Soon after his debut with the Philadelphia Orchestra in 1965, he was chosen by Leonard Bernstein to play the Sibelius Violin Concerto with the New York Philharmonic for a special CBS television network tribute to the Finnish composer. He has subsequently performed with many of the world's leading orchestras in Europe, Israel, Latin America, and the United States, including the Cleveland, St. Louis, Pittsburgh, Detroit, Houston, Baltimore, Atlanta, and National Symphony Orchestras, as well as the Israel Philharmonic, New Philharmonia of London, and the Zurich Tonhalle Orchestra.

Sergiu Luca's many recordings attest to his sensitivity for varied styles and periods of music. He made a sensation with his recordings of the complete unaccompanied works of J.S. Bach, the first rendering on an original instrument. Subsequent recordings of music by Bartók, Schumann, Schubert, Mendelssohn, Tartini, Janáček, and William Bolcom, as well as orchestral recordings with Leonard Slatkin and the St. Louis Symphony and David Zinman and the Rochester Philharmonic gained him international acclaim.

As a recitalist, Sergiu Luca has performed throughout North America and in Europe, Mexico, and Japan. He has collaborated with such keyboard artists as Albert Fuller, Emanuel Ax, Anne Epperson, Joseph Kalichstein, Malcolm Bilson, Peter Serkin, Brian Connelly, and Gustav Leonhardt.

Sergiu Luca is the Dorothy Richard Starling Professor of Classical Violin at The Shepherd School of Music. He is also the founder of the presenting organizations Chamber Music Northwest and Da Camera of Houston, and of the ensemble CONTEXT, which was formed in 1994.

Performances of pianist BRIAN CONNELLY span an unusually broad range of historical and modern repertoires. Born in Detroit, he attended the University of Michigan, where he studied with pianists György Sándor and Theodore Lettvin. Mr. Connelly has premiered works by a host of contemporary composers such as William Albright, Karim Al-Zand, Derek Bermel,

William Bolcom, Anthony Brandt, Paul Cooper, David Diamond, Ross Lee Finney, Arthur Gottschalk, Richard Lavenda, and many others. He is a frequent guest with new music groups such as the Pittsburgh New Music Ensemble and the Chicago Contemporary Players, and he was recently featured in the Carnegie Hall series "Making Music" in a tribute to William Bolcom. Known for his affinity for the works of Olivier Messiaen, Connelly's performances this season include recitals of Messiaen's piano music, the song cycles, the chamber music, *Oiseaux exotiques* with conductor Larry Rachleff and the Shepherd School Chamber Orchestra, and the *Trois petites liturgies de la Présence Divine* with conductor Donald Runnicles at the Grand Teton Music Festival. Mr. Connelly is also widely respected as a scholar and performer of historical instruments, appearing in the United States and Europe on 18th- and 19th-century pianos by Walther, Rosenberger, Graf, Pleyel, Bösendorfer, and Streicher. He performed nearly 150 solo and chamber works for Da Camera of Houston in its path-breaking first six seasons, and he has for thirteen years been a member of the renowned ensemble CONTEXT. Mr. Connelly has appeared with many of today's most respected instrumentalists, such as violinist Sergiu Luca, cellists Michael Kannen, Gary Hoffman, and Lynn Harrell, flutist Carol Wincenc, clarinetist Charles Neidich, and pianists Robert Levin and André-Michel Schub, and he has shared ragtime recitals with jazz pianist Marcus Roberts. He teaches piano performance and chamber music at the Shepherd School.

THE INSTRUMENTS

This evening's program is played on a violin made in Vienna in 1829 by Nicolaus Sawicki. It is believed to have been made for, and probably owned by Paganini, whose own Del Gesu of 1741 (known as "the Cannon") was entrusted by the great virtuoso to this important maker for its first major repair and restoration. It is an identical, and probably the first, copy of that famous violin. The piano used in this performance was made in Vienna in 1826 by Conrad Graf.



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